



## City of Gaithersburg Press Release

**Contact:** Public Information Director  
City of Gaithersburg  
301-258-6310  
cityhall@gaitthersburgmd.gov

### For Immediate Release

## ***Mysterious Delights Exhibit on Display at Arts Barn Gallery***

**Gaithersburg, MD (October 27, 2021)** Gaithersburg's *Arts on the Green* presents *Mysterious Delights*, an exhibit highlighting artists whose works are prompted by their intuition and imagination. The exhibit is on display October 29 through December 26, 2021, at the Arts Barn Gallery, 311 Kent Square Road. Viewing hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 1 to 5 p.m. or by appointment. This exhibit was curated by Mary Weiss-Waldhorn and features nine artists using various media and genres.

Meet the artists during a reception on Thursday, November 4 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Due to health and safety protocols, space is limited. Please RSVP in advance [here](#). A reception for the *Painterly Brushstrokes: Captured Essence* and *Drawing: Eloquence of Line* exhibits at Kentlands Mansion will also be held on November 4 and attendees are invited to visit both galleries.

Face masks are required inside all City facilities, and social distancing and limited capacity protocols are in place. Performances are subject to change based on the current health situation. Please check the City's [website](#) for updates.

**Carl Yonder's** imagination is boundless. His work, which seems to reflect the past or the future, is grounded in his daily art making of the present. He carries the viewer to far away and exotic worlds, and his style can be both painterly or illustrative. Yonder's drawings and sketches are described as being fascinating as his paintings, and his pieces are truly "mysterious delights." "Words to describe my art feel out of reach to me," says Yonder. "A single piece may not be made up of a single idea, but a collection of ideas balanced through magic, ritual and intuition until it feels right." Yonder's work typifies him as an internalized traveler and storyteller as well as a seeker for what is behind the curtain of life.

**Nico Gozal** is a silk painting expert, and his art entices viewers in as he uses themes that are often mythic or symbolic. Most of the work chosen for this exhibit shows human forms crawling or reaching for something greater than themselves. Gozal's work evokes yearning, struggle and hope. Like Carl Yonder, Gozal wants his work to reach his viewers as they internalize and personalize it. "Stimulating personal experience in viewers through my artwork is a driving force behind my creative process," says Gozal.

**Pritha Srinivasan's** style and color choices carry the viewer into a world that seems gentle, kind and beautiful. The strong female figures chosen for this show dance through space or fly upon magical birds. All of her work elicits a sense of joy and is a pleasure for the eye to behold. "The object of my watercolors and acrylics are to allow the viewer into a meditative space to linger and lose themselves in the beauty that surrounds us every day," says Srinivasan.

**Rhonda J. Smith**, an accomplished printmaker, spent 30 years as an art professor and chairperson at Shepherd University in West Virginia. Like other artists in this exhibit, Smith wants to reach the soul of her viewers through her work. She states that each of her prints "creates a talisman, a prayer and a wish to share with the viewer." "Seasons of Grace," featured in this exhibit, is a series of large linoleum cut prints that harken back to a medieval theme revolving around the four seasons.

**Richard Weiblinger** is a prolific photographer who avidly explores and chronicles themes that interest him. He is particularly fascinated by the use of color and light in his imagery. All the pieces chosen for this exhibit have an ethereal quality and give a sense of the muted, gentle light often seen at dusk or dawn. "Through my photographs I strive to reveal a passion for exploring our world," says Weiblinger. "I prefer subjects that lead to chromatic strength and use creative lighting not only to illuminate my subjects but also to give them a dream-like, surreal quality."

In addition to the wall-hung art featured in this exhibit, four artists will be displaying three-dimensional works.

Arts Barn resident artist and jeweler, **Maritza Suarez-Valenti**, will be showing several new exhibition-level jewelry pieces created especially for this exhibit. Suarez-Valenti is known for her hand-smithed pieces made in silver, copper and brass to which she adds colored mediums.

**Bonnie Zuckerman** hand paints bisque pieces using a wax-resist process, creating intricate, detailed pieces evoking the natural world. Each piece takes hours to complete and is rarely planned, but evolves instinctively.

**Leigh Partington's** ceramics are whimsical with a folkloric quality that brings a smile to the viewer. Many of her pieces are hand built from clay, with minimal glazing, which helps retain the natural feel of her work.

Fiber artist, **Kendra Biddick**, takes viewers to other worlds with her felted wool sculptural pieces. Her pieces are organic and have a need to be looked at carefully to take in all of the surprising details.

Please note that most of the included artwork is for sale and all images are copyrighted by the artists. For more information, please call 301-258-6394, e-mail [artgalleries@gaithersburgmd.gov](mailto:artgalleries@gaithersburgmd.gov), or visit the [Arts Barn gallery webpage](#). Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) @ArtsOnTheGreen.

The *Arts on the Green* visual arts program is funded in part by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC). To discover more about MSAC grants and how they impact Maryland's arts sector, visit [www.msac.org](http://www.msac.org).

###